

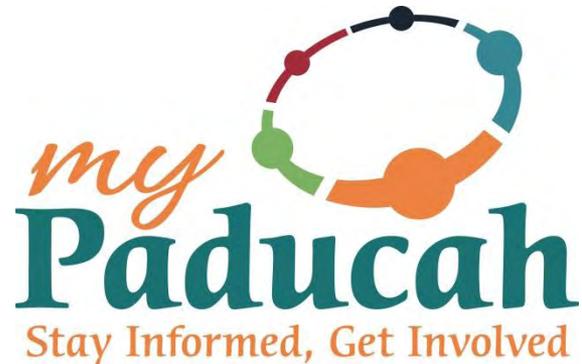


State of the City Address

Mayor Gayle Kaler

*Paducah, KY
January 8, 2015*

**Internationally-Known,
Nationally-Recognized,
and
Service-Centered**



Internationally-Known

UNESCO

Gaining momentum from 2013 UNESCO Creative City Designation *City of Crafts and Folk Art*



Suzhou, China



**Invited by Suzhou to
April 2014 International
Culture & Design
Industry Expo**



**Invitation by University
of Kentucky to travel to
Gabon, Africa in May
2014**

**Discussion of economic
and cultural exchanges**

**Lambaréné is a similar-
sized river city**

Nationally-Recognized

National Recognition



**One of America's Best
Main Streets**
(January 2014)



**One of most affordable
cities by NerdWallet with
cost-of-living index less
than 100** (June 2014)



**#5 in Traveler Magazine's
World's Smartest Cities**
(October 2014)

Most Popular Tourist Attractions in America

According to *TripAdvisor.com*, these are the most popular travel attractions in each of the 50 states based on the “TripAdvisor Popularity Index,” which takes into account “quality, quantity, and recency” of reviews written by the site’s users.



Based upon TripAdvisor Popularity Index

(May 2014)

Service-Centered

Don't be In-text-icated Program

- Received KY League of Cities Enterprise Cities Award
- Raises awareness about danger of distracted driving
- Partnership with Hillary Coltharp and her family





Dedicated to Community

Continued Coffee with a Cop program

**Appointed
Community Resource
Officer Gretchen
Morgan**



Working to Make Paducah Safer



An 8% reduction in repeat domestic violence offenses, a 24% reduction in the last 5 years

A 5% reduction in traffic collisions city-wide



Fire Department's 2014 Successes

- Added Deputy Chief of Operations and a technical rescue team
- Held customer service class for personnel
- Responded to 3095 incidents
- Replaced two apparatus
- Chief Steve Kyle named president of Kentucky Firefighter's Association





Fire Prevention Division's 2014 Successes

- Downsized division due to increased efficiency
- Held 3rd Annual Electrical, Building, and Fire Service Conference
- Initiated property maintenance meetings with other cities
- 11 Commercial demolitions - 28 Residential demolitions
- 543 building permits with nearly \$42 million valuation





**23rd consecutive annual award
for financial reporting from
Government Finance Officers
Association of United States
and Canada (GFOA)**

***Strong S&P bond
rating of AA-***

**Refinanced two bonds in 2014
with expected interest savings
of nearly \$850,000**

Enterprise Resource Planning

- Upgrading/Replacing business management software
- Enhanced technology will provide internal efficiencies and improved customer service



Paducah Main Street



- 12 businesses opened in downtown/LowerTown
- 11 façade grants approved/completed
- 5 roof stabilization projects approved/completed
- Created Upper Story Residential grant program
- Established Downtown Property & Business Owner Group
- Established LowerTown Arts District Planning Group
- Several rehabilitation projects underway

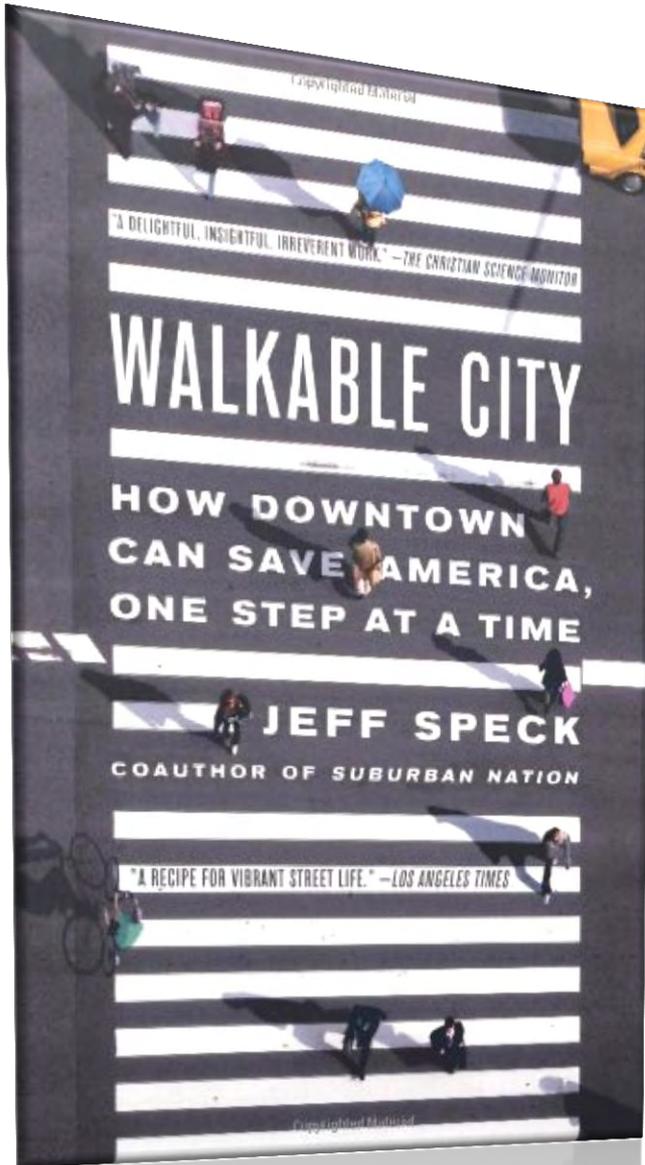
Successful Promotional Campaigns

- Smashin' Summer Saturdays
- Showcase Paducah
- Dickens of a Christmas



Walkability...

- In August, Paducah hosted visit by internationally known author, city planner, and urban designer—Jeff Speck
- Analyzed downtown looking for ways to improve walkability
- Provided presentation for public outlining recommendations



Fountain Avenue Neighborhood Revitalization 2014 Successes

- **24 building permits issued for improvements to existing properties**
- **5 new homes completed or under construction**



Total permitted value for 2014 in Fountain Avenue Neighborhood equals \$2.56 million!

Grants Division

- Applied for 29 grants in 2014
- Received so far more than \$760,000 (7 grants pending)

14th Street Park

- Received Land & Water Fund grant
- Applied for Foundation for Healthy Kentucky grant



Parks Department

Outstanding Department
Award through KY
Recreation & Parks Society
for **3rd year** in a row!

**Took over management of
Farmers' Market**

**Created Special Events
Coordinator position**

**Organized Live on the
River and Riverfront
Concert Series**



**Completed 4.5 miles of
Greenway Trail with lighted
underpass at U.S. 45
linking County Park Road
to downtown**



**Completed Ohio
River Boat Launch
at N. 6th and
Burnett with 85
parking spaces,
wide ramp, and
courtesy dock**

Noble Park Lake Bank Stabilization Project

- **First phase**
- **Stabilized 665 feet of bank**
- **Repaired drainage and improved accessibility**
- **New sidewalks**
- **Duck Island renovated**



Researching Residential Curbside Recycling for Integrated Solid Waste Plan

- If possible, within current residential fee
- Looking for efficiencies through types of trucks and bringing collection location out of alleys
- Public-private partnership for transfer station



From 2013 Citizen Survey, 81% of respondents were either very interested or somewhat interested in single-stream curbside recycling.

Paducah Riverfront Development Agency

**Board conducted review of
Riverfront Development Plan
and made
recommendations
to City Commission**



**Initiated master
planning of former
Executive Inn site**

PRDA

Hilton Garden Inn



Future of City Hall

- **Moving forward with preliminary site selection and future design of new facility in civic center zone**
- **Public engagement process August-September 2014**
- **72% of respondents favor new facility or renovation of building other than current facility**
- **Canopy is deflecting nearly 9 inches at corners**



My Paducah

Individual commitment to a group effort – that is what makes a team work, a company work, a society work, a civilization work.

- Vince Lombardi

